

Office of Interim Chief Colleen Nolen

3575 South Market Street, West Valley City, Utah, 84119

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 1, 2018

CONTACT: Roxeanne Vainuku, Public information Officer

Office: (801) 965-7678 Mobile: (801) 509-1375

Roxeanne.vainuku@wvc-ut.gov

On February 1, 2018, West Valley City Police arrested two 16-year-old males in connection with the gang related homicide of 15-year-old Irving Alexis Chuba. Both juveniles have been booked into the Salt Lake Valley Detention Center on charges of murder.

The shooting of Irving Alexia Chuba occurred January 18, 2017. At approximately 9:45 pm, West Valley City Police were called to respond to 4100 South Hawkeye Drive. There, officers discovered a 15-year-old male, later identified as Chuba, deceased on the scene.

The victim had been traveling in a van with several friends, all of whom are juveniles in their midteens, when they were confronted by another group in a vehicle near 3500 South Bangerter Highway. At that time, the driver of the van made statements indicating that one or more of the occupants of the other vehicle were known to him, and he began to attempt to lose them. The other driver followed the victim at high speeds, running several red lights, and weaving in and out of traffic in the area of 3500 South Bangerter and 3100 South west of Bangerter. When the victim was forced to slow down due to traffic at 4100 South Bangerter, the other driver pulled alongside the victim's vehicle and fired multiple shots. The driver was struck by at least one bullet. The victim's vehicle then turned westbound onto 4100 south in an eastbound lane, colliding with another vehicle. No one was seriously injured in that accident. There was also a dog inside the victim's vehicle which was struck by at least one bullet. The dog, which appeared to be a chihuahua, died at the scene.

This investigation was particularly difficult due to the lack of information and tips in the case. West Valley City Police investigators have worked diligently since this crime occurred, employing the most sophisticated and thorough investigative methods. It is only through their exhaustive efforts that the two juvenile suspects in this case were identified, located and arrested.